

Remarks:

This amendment is submitted in an earnest effort to advance this case to issue without delay.

The claims stand finally rejected on a new reference, namely US 5,092,461 of Adam.

Amended claim 1 clearly defines over this reference by describing how the needle inlet is outside the space formed by the bow 6 and an outlet that is in the free space defined by this bow. This clearly distinguishes over Adam in that the inlet of the Adam needle N is within the body of the syringe, not in the free space defined by the bow 6. Thus amended claim 1 defines clearly under §102 over Adam and is allowable.

Going further, Adam discloses nothing more than a needle shield. Not only is the invention clearly defined over the Adam system, but the instant invention is aimed at an altogether different purpose and is in fact a distantly related medical device. Thus the claims are allowable under §103 over this reference.

If only minor problems that could be corrected by means of a telephone conference stand in the way of allowance of this

case, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned to make the necessary corrections.

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Enclosure:

None.